

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A print control method for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

5 a saving step of saving data to be printed in a storage unit together with the designated number of sets of copies;

a discrimination step of discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

10 a change step of changing the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction; and

15 an output step of outputting the data saved in the storage unit to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies in response to the print instruction.

2. The method according to claim 1, further comprising a delete step of deleting the data output in the output step from the storage unit when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

20 3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

25 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the data stored in the storage unit is intermediate data before

being converted into a format to be output to the
printing apparatus, and said method further comprises
the change step of changing a setup associated with the
data saved in the storage unit after the data is output
5 in the output step, when the print instruction is the
test print instruction.

5. The method according to claim 4, further
comprising a change step of changing a setup associated
with the data saved in the storage unit after the data
10 is output in the output step, when the print
instruction is the test print instruction, and the step
of resetting the designated number of sets of copies to
an original value when the setup has been changed in
the change step.

15 6. A print control apparatus for controlling a
printing apparatus to print, comprising:

a spooler that saves data to be printed together
with the designated number of sets of copies; and

a spool file manager that checks if a print
20 instruction is a test print instruction, that changes
the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print
instruction is the test print instruction, and outputs
the data saved in the spooler to the printing apparatus
together with the number of sets of copies to be
25 printed in response to the print instruction.

7. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the print instruction is not the test print instruction, said spool file manager deletes the output data from said spooler.

5 8. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the print instruction is not the test print instruction, said spool file manager decreases the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies after said spool
10 file manager outputs the data.

9. The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the data stored in said spooler is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and when the print instruction is
15 the test print instruction, said spool file manager changes a setup associated with the data saved in said spooler after said spool file manager outputs the data.

10. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said spool file manager changes the number of sets of copies
20 associated with the data saved in said spooler after said spool file manager outputs the data when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and resets the number of sets of copies to the designated number of sets of copies when the print instruction is not the
25 test print instruction and when the number of sets of copies has been changed.

11. A print system which is constructed by connecting a print control apparatus of claim 6 and a printing apparatus and prints based on data output from output step of said print control apparatus.

5 12. A computer readable storage medium storing a computer program for making a computer to execute a print control method for controlling a printing apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

10 saving data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies;

discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

15 changing the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction; and

outputting the data saved in said saving step to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies in response to the print instruction.

20 13. The medium according to claim 12, wherein said method further comprises a step of deleting the data output by said output step from said saving step when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

25 14. The medium according to claim 12, wherein said method further comprises a step of decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process

from the designated number of sets of copies, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

15. The medium according to claim 12, wherein the data stored in said saving step is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and said method further comprises a step of changing a setup associated with the data saved in said saving step after said outputting step outputs the data, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

16. The medium according to claim 15, wherein said method further comprises a step of changing a setup associated with the data saved in said saving step after said outputting step outputs the data, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and a step of resetting the designated number of sets of copies to an original value when the setup has been changed in said changing step.

17. A computer program for making a computer to execute a print control method for controlling a printing apparatus, said program comprising the processing steps of:

saving data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies;

discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

changing the number of sets of copies to 1 when
the print instruction is the test print instruction;
and

outputting the data saved in said saving step to
5 the printing apparatus together with the number of sets
of copies in response to the print instruction.

18. The program according to claim 17, wherein said
program further comprises a processing step of deleting
the data output by said output step from said saving
10 step when the print instruction is not the test print
instruction.

19. The program according to claim 17, wherein said
program further comprises a processing step of
decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a
15 test print process from the designated number of sets
of copies, when the print instruction is the test print
instruction.

20. The program according to claim 17, wherein the
data stored in said saving step is intermediate data
20 before being converted into a format to be output to
the printing apparatus, and said program further
comprises a processing step of changing a setup
associated with the data saved in said saving step
after said outputting step outputs the data, when the
25 print instruction is the test print instruction.

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21. The program according to claim 20, wherein said program further comprises a processing step of changing a setup associated with the data saved in said saving step after said outputting step outputs the data, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and a step of resetting the designated number of sets of copies to an original value when the setup has been changed in said changing step.